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ing from one side of the apex. The spores are mostly a little narrower below and more acute.

PESTALLOZZIA AQUATICA, *n. s.* On living leaves of *Peltandra Virginica*, Newfield, N. J., August, 1889. Spots amphigenous, chestnut brown $\frac{1}{2}$ to 1 centimeter in diameter, concentrically wrinkled, border narrow, darker, acervuli epiphyllous, erumpent, $\frac{1}{4}$ to $\frac{1}{3}$ millimeter in diameter, black, convex, then concave. Spores obovate, 18–20 by 6–7 μ , 4-septate, end cells hyaline, next to the lower cell subhyaline, two next above dark. Crest of three stout (15–20 by 1 μ) hyaline spreading bristles. What appears to be the same is found also on leaves of *Sarracenia purpurea*.

PESTALLOZZIA NERVALIS, *n. s.* On veinlets of living white-oak leaf from which the parenchyma had been eaten away by some larva, Racine, Wis., September, 1888. Dr. J. J. Davis, 3. Acervuli subhysteriiform. Conidia narrow, elliptical or broad, oblong-fusoid, 4-septate, terminal cells hyaline, colored part (3 inner cells) about 14 by 6 μ , lower hyaline cell 8–9 μ , long, oblique bristle at the apex 8–9 μ long.

PESTALLOZZIA MAURA, E. & E. J. M. IV, p. 123. Mr. Langlois finds this at St. Martinsville, La., on dead leaves of *Persea Carolinensis* and on leaves of *Quercus virens* and *Q. palustris*, differing from the Florida specimens only in the absence of any spots, the innate erumpent acervuli being scattered irregularly over the leaf and mostly erumpent below. This species is well characterized by its obconic conidia, having the two cells next below the upper hyaline cell almost black.

BLACK SPOT OF ASPARAGUS BERRIES.

By CHARLES E. FAIRMAN.

These berries are of some slight agricultural importance. Thus we read in the report of the U. S. Agricultural Department for 1885, p. 613, "To save seed the stalks should be cut when the former are scarlet and ripe, to be stripped by hand or thrashed off on a cloth or floor, then pounded in a wooden mortar with a wooden pestle to break the outer shells. The seeds are then frequently washed to float away the chaff, dried in the sun and air and stored."

Asparagus berries are liable to a disease which may, for brevity's sake, be called black spot.

This is due (a) to the growth of fungi in the interior of the berry, (b) to growth of fungi on the exterior of the berry.

(a) Some asparagus berries which had been gathered in September, 1886, were found, a month or two later, to show black spots in the interior. In the blackened substance of the berry, mycelial threads were frequently found, but fruiting specimens were rare. The black spots were thought to be due to chemical changes in the berry produced by fungi. The fungus which causes this is probably *Penicillium glaucum*. The determination was made according to the figure of this fungus given by Beale.*

The contents of the berry would seem to furnish a favorable medium for the growth of fungi. Reinsch, in 1870 (according to the National Dispensary 1879, p. 249), found in the berries considerable grape sugar.

(b) External spotting of the berry is due to the growth of fungi on the surface. This was noticed in berries which remained on the stems some time after ripening. The stems are covered at times with a black incrustation which may extend to the berry and involve more or less of its surface. The most common cause of this is the growth of *Cladosporium*.

This brief note will have fully served its purpose if it calls attention to these growths and thus better fruited specimens (than I have as yet found) are secured. As is well known, the most common fungi on decaying vegetable matter are *Macrosporium* and *Cladosporium*. J. B. Ellis (in letter of January 28, 1887), has said:

It is not improbable that with the proper degree of heat and moisture one or the other of these would make its appearance on the berries in the form of a velutinous or fine hair-like growth of fertile threads bearing the spores or conidia peculiar to one or the other of these genera.

At present nothing farther can with certainty be said.

AN EXPERIMENT IN PREVENTING THE INJURIES OF POTATO-ROT (*Phytophthora infestans*).†

By CLARENCE M. WEED.

(1) The experiment reported by the author was undertaken to determine what effect the application of a solution of sulphate of copper and lime (known as the Bordeaux mixture) to the foliage of potatoes would have in preventing the injuries of the potato-rot, and was conducted on the grounds of the Ohio Agricultural Experiment Station.

(2) Fifteen feet at the end of each of twenty rows of potatoes were

* Microscope in Medicine, fourth edition, Fig. 7, Plate XXV.

† Summary of a paper read before the Society for the Promotion of Agricultural Science, August 27, 1889.